

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
Chicago • Springfield • Urbana-Champaign

Office of the Vice President for Technology and Economic Development  
346 Henry Administration Building  
506 South Wright Street  
Urbana, IL 61801

David L. Chicoine  
Vice President

September 1, 2006

The Honorable Tom Coburn, M.D.  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Federal Financial  
Management, Government Information,  
and International Security  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Coburn:

On behalf of the University of Illinois and its three campuses, I am writing in response to your letter regarding federal support for research at the University of Illinois. I appreciate your interest in this important issue.

As you note in your letter, research plays a critical role in improving the quality of life for individuals. Federal support for university-based research is an investment in our children's future. A strong federal commitment to research is essential to enhance our nation's competitiveness in the global economy and to address the most difficult challenges facing our nation in areas such as health care, energy security, economic growth, the environment, and the threat of terrorism.

Attached is a copy of our most recent Federal Grants and Contracts report which outlines the federal funding received by the University of Illinois. You will note that 85% of the Federal contracts and grants were for research. Funding from National Science Foundation and Department of Health and Human Services accounted for almost 65% of the total federal grant and contract expenditures. The report also highlights several examples of the important breakthroughs that have been supported by federal research grants.

The University has established an Office of Governmental Relations to coordinate its interactions with State and Federal officials. The University is committed to comply with all State and Federal requirements regarding its interactions with elected officials. The University has not engaged the services of an outside lobbyist.

I hope this information is helpful. Again, thank you for your interest in the research conducted by faculty at the University of Illinois.

Sincerely,



David L. Chicoine  
Vice President for Technology and Economic Development  
Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs

Attachment

cc: President B. Joseph White  
Chancellor Richard H. Herman  
Chancellor Sylvia Manning  
Chancellor Richard Ringeisen